



INSPECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
4800 MARK CENTER DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22350-1500

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate
709 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-0203

MAY 21 2014

Dear Senator Murkowski:

This is in response to your letter dated June 19, 2013, regarding allegations that the command climate within the Alaska National Guard (AKNG) is not conducive to reporting and investigating sexual assaults and that, in some instances, officials may have taken steps to cover up incidents of sexual assault.

Our letter of July 18, 2013, indicated that the DoD Hotline referred the allegations to the Department of the Army Inspector General (Army IG) for action (case number 20130620-014429). Our letter of March 6, 2014, indicated that officials within the Directorate for Investigations of Senior Officials (ISO) opened case number 20130715-014791-CASE-01 to monitor the senior official investigation by the Army IG.

On April 15, 2014, the Army IG completed the investigation and forwarded the Report of Investigation to ISO officials for review. The Army IG investigation found AKNG command climate sensing sessions did not identify concerns regarding sexual assault or sexual harassment reporting, and that The Adjutant General (TAG), AKNG, and other AKNG officials did not cover up any reported sexual assault incidents.

The Army IG report noted the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, AKNG, received reports of 11 alleged sexual assault incidents (since February 2012) and promptly coordinated referrals of all incidents to Alaska law enforcement authorities. Alaska State Statute, "Military Code of Alaska," Section 26.05, dictates that Alaska state civilian law enforcement authorities investigate, and the Alaska civilian criminal system prosecute, cases involving AKNG member suspects. The TAG took adverse administrative action on the only two cases upon which he could act; those which substantiated sexual assault allegations against AKNG members. In one case, the TAG discharged the subject from the AKNG, and in the other, he initiated the subject's separation.

On May 6, 2014, ISO Oversight Branch officials completed a review of the Army IG investigation and concurred with the findings and conclusions.

Should you have questions, please contact me at 703-604-8324.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry D. Turner".

Larry D. Turner
Acting Assistant Inspector General for
Communications and Congressional Liaison